



## Notification of Intent to Extend an Existing Degree Program

**Degree:** Master of Nursing

**Delivery Mechanism:** On-site; WHETS; Online **CIP Code:** 51.1601

**Location:** WSU Tri-Cities/Walla Walla

**Implementation Date:** Fall 2004

**Statement of Need:** Having the MN program at WSU Tri-Cities will enable the University to be more responsive to the critical shortage of nurses that currently exists in the Tri-Cities and Walla Walla areas. Local hospitals have periodically shut down services due to a shortage of nurses with BSN and MN degrees. Some hospitals are now encouraging their BSN prepared nurses to earn the MN degree by paying their educational expenses and arranging for distance-delivered courses and degree programs. Additionally, the community colleges in the area have expressed the urgent need for master's prepared nurse faculty. An unsolicited letter in May 2001 from students and faculty in the Columbia Basin College Nursing Program to the WSU College of Nursing provided names, phone numbers, and email addresses of 44 individuals who would be interested in pursuing their Master's in Nursing. A second unsolicited letter provided 18 additional names, email addresses, and phone numbers of individuals desiring a this program the Tri-Cities. A third unsolicited letter from Lourdes Hospital Network in Pasco requested that the Master's Program be made available in the Tri-Cities. Lourdes Hospital Network has over 800 employees and represents two area hospitals.

**Source of Funding:** Internal reallocation and proposed High Demand FTEs.

### Enrollment Targets:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 5
<b>Headcount</b>	22	44	44	44
<b>FTE</b>	10	20	20	20

**Internal Approval:** Extending the M Nursing degree program to WSU Tri-Cities/Walla Walla was approved by the Faculty Senate on April 15, 2004.